



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF ANTIQUE SCALE COLLECTORS

President's Newsletter

Number 77. January, 1998.

FIRST THINGS FIRST.

When we wrote last October's Newsletter, we told of the impending move of the Chicago office, but we hadn't settled on where. Now we have (and are satisfactorily ensconced). Our new address is 300 West Adams St., Suite 821, Chicago, IL 60606. Phone and fax remain the same. Please make the change now in your directory, in case you have to write us.

OUR APOLOGIES -- AND OUR THANKS.

First off, our apologies. The January issue of EQM has been delayed, due to a setback in the health of our editor, Diana Crawforth. Diana seems to be on the road to recovery, and our current estimate is that this year's first EQM will reach our members in late March, after which our regular publishing schedule will be observed. This is only the second delay in 20 years of publishing EQM, and we know we can count on your understanding.

Next, our thanks. Each year's first Newsletter provides a forum for your president to acknowledge his -- and our -- appreciation to ISASC's directors, officers, and committee chairpersons for their previous year's individual and collective contribution to our Society's well-being. To say we're deeply indebted to each would be putting it mildly, so here are, as emphatically as we can say it, our THANKS, THANKS, THANKS to directors Diana Crawforth and Jan Macho, directors/officers Bill Doniger and Steve Ginsberg, officers Jerry Katz, Ed Konowitz, Joe Lenorovitz and Ruth Willard, and committee chairpersons Judy Soslau, Norm Cima and Jerry Wilson. In ways too numerous to

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chronicle here, each has contributed services upon which the smooth functioning of our Society depends, and for their selfless efforts, we convey to one and all our appreciation.

TORONTO CONVENTION REPORT.

This past early December, your convention co-chairpersons (yours truly and Utz and Shirley Schmidt) spent three days in Toronto finalizing plans and resolving what still had to be done, including meeting with a number of ISASC's Canadian members (see below). We now can report that everything usually done in advance of our convention dates is "battened down and secure in its mooring" (nautically put, in deference to our Thursday night dinner cruise on Lake Ontario). Moreover, sightseeing tours and other social events are in tow; the program is well-anchored, with Canadian members Walter Bick, Sheldon Godfrey, Harvey Kotler, Joe Stroz, Bob Traquair, and Ed Walton, along with guest speakers, making ready to deliver their north-of-the-border metrology presentations; our hotel -- the Royal York -- is even more resplendent than when we last saw it; and the menus are already planned for delicious dining in popular restaurants and at the Saturday night festive banquet in the hotel's sky-high Upper Canada Room.

Two more points: #1 -- Ultra-simple customs clearance for U.S. members bringing scales to sell at our Silent Auction has been arranged, and whatever little has to be done will be conveyed in mid-April to members who (1) already have made their reservations, and (2) have told us in a questionnaire being sent them of their intent to be an Auction Seller. If you have any questions, call Bob Stein @ 312/263-7500.

#2 -- Convention materiel was sent to our members via first-class mail in mid-January, and more of the same is enclosed with this mailing. Now there's no earthly reason why you shouldn't make your reservation now, if not sooner.

We're looking forward to a really great time in Toronto, and urge you to be with us for the convention. Beyond that, think about extending your stay so that you can enjoy much of what Canada has to offer.

SCALE SALE, BIG TIME.

Some time back, Bill Lindeyer, a former member, contacted us for assistance in selling his quite extensive scale collection, and the upshot of it was Bill's preparation of a detailed, highly comprehensive list of 248 scales (to be exact), 35 weights or weight sets, and another 15 items identified as "ephemera." Each listed item bears a number, description, capacity figure, and sales price. In addition, there are photos of 135 selected items. Nothing more need be said; the list and terms of sale are enclosed and fully explanatory. All dealings are to be handled direct between prospective buyers and Bill Lindeyer. IMPORTANT NOTICE: Bill's telephone area code on page 1 only is incorrect; the correct area code (860) appears on all other pages. Happy hunting!

POTPOURRI, MISCELLANY, AND WHO KNOWS WHAT.

** This past January 8th (Thursday, 12 noon EST) member Jerry Neufeld made it big time on television. His scale collection was featured on the collectibles show, "Personal FX," and carried on the FX network (channels 24 and 50, perhaps others), and along with Jerry's commentary, it proved to be most entertaining. Nice job, Jerry.

** Last December 17th, member Jim Unruh had to be in Chicago for a business meeting, so he and spouse Candi, acting on an earlier invitation, flew into Chicago the day before to see Bob Stein's collection (postal scales exclusively). Bob met them that morning at O'Hare and brought them first to his and Margie's home in Glenview (a Chicago suburb). There the Unruhs took in the collection, along with Bob's running commentary, shared a late lunch, and then proceeded to Evanston (a next-door Chicago suburb), where Bob had 110 U.S. scales on display in the Evanston post office (scheduled to be there 'til late spring or longer).

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All in all, the Unruhs got their fill of postal scales, and Bob, Margie, Jim and Candi enjoyed their day together, highlighted by the camaraderie that occurs so spontaneously among ISASC members.

** Gloria and Ralph Lipfert wrote us this past November to tell about their two-week autumn sojourn in England, and particularly of their museum-week in London, their participation--with John and Virginia Cattle--in the October 12th ISASC/Europe convention at Sunbury-on-Thames, and their visits with Bob Holdaway (Shrewsbury, England), Diana Crawforth (Oxford, England) and Paul Withers (Powys, Wales). Scale-viewing, sightseeing, and friendship bonding were the order of the day and, taken together, was yet another example of what ISASC is all about.

** And while ISASC/Europe's twice-yearly convention is on our mind, John Corfield of the U.K. tells us that in 1998 their spring meeting will be on Sunday, April 26th, at the Bass Museum in Staffordshire, England, and the fall meeting will be on Sunday, October 18th, at Avery-Berkel in Warley, England, to include a visit/tour of the Avery Museum on scales and weights. These are most enjoyable events, and if you'd like more details and a reservation form, write to John Corfield, Woodfield, Longhills Road, Church Stretton, Shropshire SY6 6DS, England.

** An excerpt from a note from member Ray Doyscher, sent with a contribution to our Benefactor Program, reads, "Yes, I am pleased to lend support to our club...I sure am pleased to be a part of the nicest organization that could exist. Good luck...I'll see you in Toronto this spring." Thank you, Ray, for those kind words.

** Some years ago, our daughter, Linda, who resides in Boulder, Colorado, let me know that her telephone number, as far as digit groupings go, was in "equilibrium," and a look at the number--303/494-2112 -- verified it to be so. Recently, and some years later, we had reason to talk to member Sam Picone, and would you

believe it, his phone number -- 626/444-2882 -- similarly is in "equilibrium." We now know of two such odd happenings. Does anyone have any other instances to add to our collection?

SORROWFUL NEWS.

In the past few months, ISASC suffered the loss of two of our long-time and strongly-supportive members. One was Bob Miller, who, on September 28, 1997, "slipped away gently in his sleep," as his widow, Pat, wrote us. Bob was one of our very first members, and during his tenure in ISASC, served at different times from 1981 to 1987 as treasurer, vice president, and director. We pass on our condolences to Pat, who has seen fit to continue membership in ISASC in her name.

The other was Rod Webster, who died on July 31, 1997, after two weeks of acute illness. Rod had an enduring commitment to ISASC and all that it represents, and he expressed his support in ways most generous. We convey our regrets to Madge, his widow, who also decided to continue membership in ISASC in her name.

To both Pat and Madge, we express our grief at the passing of their loved ones, with the hope that time will assuage their bereavement.

BUSINESS NEWS.

For the past two years, we've been working hard to revise our bylaws, especially as they pertain to the status of ISASC/Europe (now fully autonomous and self-supporting), as well as their incorporating other changes in our modus operandi. We now can report that the revised by-laws have been reviewed by ISASC's officers and directors, have undergone final changes, and are on their way to director approval and legal certification. This is planned to be done by late February or early March, after which an election of directors by the membership, as prescribed by the by-laws, will be held. Each member's ballot for this election will be included in EQM mailing #2 (April). Please watch for it.

If you haven't as yet paid your 1998 dues, please do so at once. To those members who do not bring their account current, according to our bylaws they will be suspended during their first two months of delinquency and then removed from our membership ranks. If this applies to you, please don't force this action upon us.

AND INEVITABLY: ENCLOSURES.

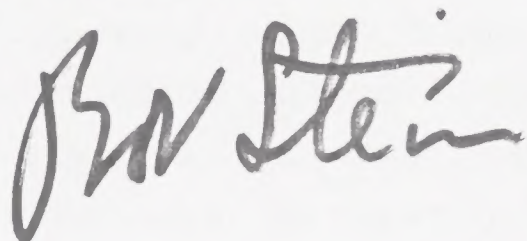
With this Newsletter you'll find an updated list of ISASC's current offerings. Now's a good time to augment your metrology library, simply by reviewing the list and ordering what is likely to increase your knowledge. A number of items on the list are new, so -- just do it.

Also enclosed is Supplement #3 to your directory, listing new members who have joined since last October. As you can plainly see, we continue to enjoy steady and frequent growth, and as of today, January 31, our member count (North America only) is 370, an all-time high.

AND SO...

We've run out of news to report, which is just as well, because we again can turn our attention to our upcoming Toronto convention, where we hope to see you all. Don't pass up this opportunity to enjoy the trip of a scale collector's lifetime.

Fraternally,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Ben Stein". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "B" and a long, sweeping underline.